

Speech at the ceremony ( Principal SiTu FuXiang )

For Ninghai High School - Italian Ministry of Education Delegation

ladies and gentlemen, dear friends:

Hello everyone!

We are glad to meet all friends here in Nanjing Ninghai High School and take this as an opportunity to promote the international exchange program jointly promoted by Ninghai Middle School and the Italian Ministry of Education. First of all, on behalf of Education Bureau in Gulou District, and myself, I would like to extend my warm congratulations on the hosting of the welcoming ceremony and exchange activities. I would like to extend my sincere welcome to all our friends!

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce Nanjing and Gulou District to all of you. Nanjing, referred to as “Ning” for short, is regarded as the capital city of Jiangsu province, sub-provincial city, and core city among Nanjing metropolitan circle. It is approved and confirmed by the State Council as a central city, an important scientific research and education base around the world, as well as a comprehensive transportation hub in the eastern part of China. Being the capital of six ancient Chinese dynasties, Nanjing is the first national historical and cultural city, the birthplace of Chinese civilization, and the political, economic, and cultural center of Southern China. Besides, Nanjing is also an important science and education center of the country. Since ancient

times, it is a city that respects culture and education and enjoys the reputation of “cultural hub in the country” and so on. Nanjing, also known as the capital city of love, is a highly inclusive city that has an eclectic mix of foreign cultures.

Gulou District is in the center of Nanjing City. It is an important science and technology innovation center and shipping logistics service center in the country. It is not only an international business, finance, and economic center in the eastern part of the country where many high-tech industries and headquarters cluster there, but also a cultural, educational, political and administrative center of Jiangsu Province. It is hailed as the top district in Jiangsu Province for its prosperity.

Dear guests, the year 2018 is very special to China. The Chinese people will commemorate the 40th anniversary of reform and opening up. Over the past 40 years, Chinese people have made remarkable achievements that attract worldwide attention, and we have also contributed our own wisdom and strength to the peace and development of the entire world. Looking ahead, the Chinese people are full of pride and are making strides in building a prosperous, democratic, civilized and harmonious country. As a Chinese saying goes, the sea can hold the water of all hundreds of rivers for its bigness. China will continue to open up to the world, promote mutually beneficial cooperation with all countries in the world, help carry out Belt and Road initiative, and realize the creation and

sharing of developmental opportunities among all countries. China will vigorously carry out cultural exchanges with other countries with a more open mind, more tolerant attitude, and broader perspective so as to make contributions to the promotion of human civilization and progress in learning and mutual understanding.

Ladies, gentlemen and friends!

Civilization is colorful due to exchanges, and it is also enriched by mutual understanding. Exchange is an important driving force for the advancement of human civilization and world peace and development. On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening up, the international exchange program of Ninghai Middle School and the Italian Ministry of Education is particularly valuable and meaningful. I sincerely hope that this exchange activity will achieve breakthroughs both in depth and in breadth, which can truly contribute to the culture of China and Italy and even all other aspects to help our building a human destiny community.

Wherever there are dreams, pursuits, and struggles, everything is possible!

Finally, I wish you every success in this exchange!

Thank you all!

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